

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A01D34/416

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A01D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 271 595 A (RAHE JON A) 9 June 1981 (1981-06-09) column 3, line 35 -column 4, line 43; figures 1,2	1-13
A	US 5 979 064 A (KITZ ROBERT E ET AL) 9 November 1999 (1999-11-09) column 2, line 21 -column 3, line 28; figures 1-4	1-13
A	US 5 836 227 A (DEES JR JOHN M ET AL) 17 November 1998 (1998-11-17) column 3, line 21 -column 4, line 34; figures 1-7	1-13

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/06/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4271595	A	09-06-1981	NONE	
US 5979064	A	09-11-1999	AU 729990 B2	22-02-2001
			AU 8417798 A	01-04-1999
			CA 2242213 C	07-11-2000
			DE 59806507 D1	16-01-2003
			EP 0903071 A1	24-03-1999
			JP 11127655 A	18-05-1999
US 5836227	A	17-11-1998	NONE	